Olinda



City of Darebin Heritage Review 2000



Map Ref: 30 F11

Within Heritage Overlay Area.

City of Darebin Heritage Review 2000

Location

15 Prospect Grove NORTHCOTE, Darebin City

Municipality

DAREBIN CITY

Level of significance

Included in Heritage Overlay

Heritage Overlay Numbers

HO97

Heritage Listing

Darebin City

Statement of Significance

Last updated on -

Olinda is of local historical significance and contributes to the character of the Prospect Grove precinct. The brick villa is a relatively uncommon type of residence in Northcote, other examples being mainly confined to Prospect and Westbourne Groves, Clarke and James Streets), but is fairly intact common in other suburbs, such as Kew, Camberwell and Hawthorn. The building is substantially intact and is one of a number of brick villas which line the west side of Prospect Grove, regarded as the city's best late nineteenth century street.

The house has associations with William Swift who occupied the house for forty years and who had a continuing involvement with the municipality, writing its history in 1923. The house was also occupied by prominent politician, Frank Brennan in the 1920s and 30s

Heritage Study/Consultant Darebin - Darebin Heritage Review, Andrew Ward, 2000;

Hermes Number 24207

Property Number

Physical Description 1

Olinda is a single-storey asymmetrical villa with a convex-roofed cast iron verandah and a hipped and gabled slate roof The facade is of polychrome, tuck-pointed brickwork, whilst the side walls are of plain reds; the products of the New Northcote Brickworks. The projecting gabled section has a rectangular bay window with tall double-hung sash windows. The window openings have contrasting cream and brown brick voussoirs, and a number cream brick string courses continue across the street facade. The gable barge board is decorated with trefoil piercings. Further decorative elements include the bracket-pairs to the eaves and cast iron colonettes to the tripartite front window.

Internally, there are two notable Jacobean-styled marble mantles of brown and white marble, one possessing its original cast-iron grate. Swift appears to have renovated the house, internally, in the first decade of this century when a fretted Jacobean-pattern arch was placed across the window bay, timber mantles added to the rear rooms and, externally, a capped picket fence was placed across the front.

This place/object may be included in the Victorian Heritage Register pursuant to the Heritage Act 2017. Check the Victorian Heritage Database, selecting 'Heritage Victoria' as the place source.

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